

#2/A S.W.H. 3/29/02

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Our Case No. 9281-4258  
Client Reference No. N US00121

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Kiyoshi Sato et al. )  
Serial No. To Be Assigned )  
Filing Date: Herewith )  
For: Thin-Film Magnetic Head With )  
Narrowed Track Width and Method for )  
Making Same )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**In the Claims**

Please rewrite Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A thin-film magnetic head comprising:
- a lower core layer;
  - a gap layer formed on the lower core layer, with a lower pole layer therebetween;
  - an upper pole layer formed on the gap layer;
  - an upper core layer formed on the upper pole layer; and
  - a Gd-defining layer for defining the depth in the height direction of the joint surface between the gap layer and the upper pole layer, the Gd-defining layer being formed on the lower core layer toward the back in the height direction from a surface facing a recording medium,

A1  
CONT'D

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